

## REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-APRIL 12,2004

Mayor Elizabeth C. Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Paterson, Paulhus, Redding, Thorkelson

Absent: Schaefer

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the minutes of March 22, 2004 as presented with one correction: Mr. Chip Jordan was incorrectly spelled.

So passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Mr. Richard Pellegrine, Clover Mill Road, spoke on his concerns over the upcoming Spring Weekend at UConn. He urged the Town Council to encourage UConn to take appropriate action of those students who caused destruction on the Campus after the National Basketball Championships were won by both the Men and Women. If UConn takes appropriate action before spring weekend, perhaps it may discourage further inappropriate actions by the UConn students.

By consensus the order of the two Public Hearings was changed.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

## 2. Separatist Road Bikeway/Walkway Project

Mr. Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works discussed the plans for the project. The maps were on the wall of the Council Chamber.

Helen Koehn, Separatist Road was very concerned over the speed of the traffic. She suggested speed bumps for control. She also requested that traffic and speed counts be done prior to the project and after the bikeway is built

Kathy Hagan, Separatist Road, expressed concern over the high retaining wall that will be built by her driveway. She is concerned that clients coming to her home and place of business may not be able to see bikers and/or walkers as they exit her driveway. There is also concern over a large rock and ledge area that is not conducive to straight site line view as you leave her driveway. She is not in favor of the project as proposed.

Emory Braswell, Separatist Road, was concerned about the ditch that is on the corner of Separatist and Stadium Road. Drivers seem not to make the appropriate turn onto Stadium Road and go into that ditch by his driveway.

Hearing closed at 8:00 p.m.

1. Proposed Fiscal Year 2004/05 Operating Budget

Mr. Richard Pellegrine, Clover Mill Road spoke on items of concern to him:

1. Cost of Annual Report/Calendar.  
Annual meeting date was not on calendar, commissions and boards were not up to date, and list of current officials such as Town Council were not on it.
2. Compensation and Fringe Benefits to certain upper management employees.  
Has the Council compared them to such towns as Newington, Glastonbury and Rocky Hill ?
3. What did the Town do to assist in the cleanup of the litter, junk, and garbage in Celeron and Carriage House apartments after the UConn celebration of the National Championships?
4. To what extent is the community center self-sufficient?
5. Has there been a study of the administrative staffing of Reg. District #19?

Public Hearing closed at 8:12 p.m.

V. OLD BUSINESS

3. Issues Regarding the UConn Landfill including the UConn Consent Order, Public Participation Relative to the Consent Order and Well Testing

The Town Manager reported that the Quarterly Progress Report for Jan-March 2004 was in the Council's packet. The final report is due soon as to the closeout plan. Six or seven more houses have been added to UConn water.

4. University Spring Weekend

The Town Manager has held many meetings with all emergency departments in both the town and university. The University has set a high priority on the student disciplinary procedure. The Dean of Students has sent out staff to do videos of certain areas of campus.

The Town Manager is waiting for the after action report from the State Police.

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to add 10a to the agenda-Town Council committee appointments

So passed unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

5. 2004 America the Beautiful Grant Application

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective April 12, 2004, to authorize the Town Manager to submit the attached 2004 America the Beautiful Grant application in the amount of \$10,953 for the purchase of a handheld personal computer and related software, and to execute a Personal Services Agreement with

the Department of Environmental Protection to receive any such grant award.

So passed unanimously.

6. Construction Agreement for Clover Mill Road Reclaim and Overlay Project

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Haddad seconded to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Martin H. Berliner, Town Manager, be, and hereby is authorized to sign the agreement entitled:

“Agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Mansfield for the Construction, Inspection and Maintenance of Clover Mill Road Reclaim and Overlay utilizing Federal Funds under the Rural Component of the Surface Transportation Program.”

So passed unanimously.

7. Administration of Fee Waiver Ordinance

No action necessary

8. Pledge of Allegiance at Town Council Meetings.

Mr. Clouette moved and Mr. Haddad seconded that the Town Council adopt a practice that at the start of each Council meeting each Council member, in alphabetical order, would present a patriotic exercise on our democracy.

After much discussion the motion was withdrawn. By consensus the Council will discuss this issue at a future meeting.

9. National Community Development Week

Mr. Haddad moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to adopt the attached Proclamation and Resolution.

So passed unanimously.

10. Town of Mansfield/University of Connecticut Land Exchange

Mr. Thorkelson moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to move that effective April 12, 2004, to refer the proposed land exchange between the town and the University of Connecticut concerning the town's property adjacent to the Bergin Correctional Institution and the University's property at Plains road to the Planning and Zoning Commission for review pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

So passed unanimously.

10A. Council Committee Appointments

Mayor Paterson has appointed Caroline Redding to the Committee on

Committees and Bruce Clouette to the Finance Committee.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Mayor reported that she and the Town Manager had attended a ceremony where Congressman Simmons presented the Downtown Partnership a USDA grant for \$50,000.

The Mayor had the opportunity to speak with Congressman Simmons on the \$5 million grant the Husky road which is the extension of North Hillside.

The Mayor and Council member Chris Paulhus attended the League of Women Voters when Rep. Merrill spoke on several issues. One issue was the cost of malpractice insurance for our local doctors and the issue of recycling bottles would be looked at again by the legislature.

There will be a dedication of the Farwell Barn on the University of Connecticut campus hopefully in May before the students leave for the summer.

On April 25, 2004 the Mayor will attend the celebration of Stephen Christopher Glow's Eagle Scout Award and present him a proclamation from the Town Council.

X. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager and Town Planner attended a meeting of the University Board of Trustees to talk on the issue of off campus housing. It is recommended that there be a sub-committee formed to look at housing, which may have problems such as housing code violations.

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership Inc and the Storrs Center Alliance LLC have signed a Development Agreement. The preliminary draft of the Business Plan must be completed within 120 days.

The Town/Gown meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2004 in the Council Chamber at 4:00 p.m.

The Town has met with the Eastbrook Mall Management to discuss the cinema project.

The Old Town Hall was a structural problem and town staff will be assessing the situation.

The next meeting will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the budget.

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

The patriotic exercise in the beginning of future Council meetings.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:06 p.m. Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Thorkelson seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk